

**Contractor Questions and DEQ Answers**  
**June 6, 2014**

Upper Blackfoot Mining Complex  
Phase 2 Construction  
DEQ Contract No. 414081  
Montana Department of Environmental Quality  
Bid Date June 12, 2014  
Bid Time 2:00 PM  
Room 239/240  
1520 East Sixth Avenue  
Helena, Montana

1. Q: Bid item 1.14, Place and Compact Interim Liner. The specification details what is entailed with the placement and how it is paid. I have not seen where the costs to remove the material the following year is paid. Can you please explain?

*A: The material will not be removed.*

2. Q: Payment for Bid Item 1.1, Mobilization. Special Provision on pg 7 says the bid price must not exceed 10% of total bid price. Would a bid be considered non-responsive if this item was bid over 10% of the total amount?

*A: Yes.*

3. Q: Will the entire area of the Ph I repository shown on sheet 1.16 of 34 actually be ready for placement of mine wastes at the inception of this contract?

*A: Yes*

4. Q: What is the proposed configuration of the overburden stockpile at the repository? It seems that in order to fit the volume of OB (with the topsoil removal accounted for) into the area shown on sheet 1.13 of 34 the slopes of the stockpile will have to be near vertical.

*A: If all of the material excavated from the repository is stockpiled the area is very tight, but should fit with 1.5:1 side slopes and a maximum depth of 46 feet on the south crest of the stockpile. If conditions warrant, the exact configuration and footprint can be modified in the field as approved by Engineer.*

5. Q: Also in regards to the overburden stockpile, will it be necessary to seed the area and if so, how will that work be paid?

*A: Seeding is not required under this contract. If necessary, it will be seeded under a separate revegetation contract.*

6. Q: Is the 2.5' of over excavation shown in the plans for the repository excavation included in the 136,000 cy shown for the bid item?

A: Yes.

7. Q: If stockpiling of the interim cover material (glacial tills) is necessary, does the stockpile have to be located at the designated overburden stockpile area?

A: Yes.

8. Q: Can placement of mine waste into the completed portion (Ph 1) of the repository occur prior to the completion of the Ph 2 repository? If so, is there any special requirements at the interface of the two sections of mine waste during placement (benching, recompaction of slopes, ect.)?

*A: Yes, we expect placement of waste into at least a portion of Phase 1 will be needed before enough of Phase 2 is ready to receive waste. The contractor will be required to keep the waste within the Phase 1 drainage/compacted low permeability fill layer footprint and not allow any waste to erode, be placed, or spill into the Phase 2 area until the drainage/compacted low permeability fill layer has been completed, connected, and accepted by Engineer. If approved by Engineer, the Phase 2 repository construction may be completed and tied into the finished portions of the drainage/compacted low permeability fill layer in sub-phases to support the contractors hauling and placement plans.*

9. Q: Should the contractor anticipate tailing conditions similar to portrayed in the photos at the link below from the impoundment?

<http://deq.mt.gov/statesuperfund/ubmc/virtour/ubmctv13.mcpv>

*A: There will be some tailings with the consistency shown in the impoundment photos on the website specified. That is not the consistency of the majority of the tailings in the impoundment. More information on the conditions in the impoundment is available in the "Mike Horse Impoundment and Floodplain 2009 Investigation Report" available from the following download link: <https://pioneer-technical.sharefile.com/d-s51b5e05f55140f9b>*

10. Q: We also have a couple of people that would like to visit the site this coming Monday, if acceptable? Check in with the folks at the Water Treatment Plant prior to visiting onsite?

*A: Yes, you may visit the site. If walking in behind the gates, please check in and out with the folks at the water treatment plant for safety reasons and let DEQ know. Shellie Haaland the DEQ Contract Manager will not be available from June 6 through June 9. Please contact David Bowers at 406-422-7406.*

11. Q: Would it be acceptable to dig a few test holes in the impoundment area? Say 3 or so with a mini-excavator.

*A: Yes, we can make arrangements to provide access for such an investigation. Shellie Haaland the DEQ Contract Manager will not be available from June 6 through June 9. Please contact David Bowers at 406-422-7406.*

12. Q: Please confirm that bid item 1.13 Place and Compact Mine Waste is the placement and compaction of bid items 2.3.D, 2.4 and 2.5.B in the Repository.

*A: Yes bid item 1.13 is the placement and compaction of bid items 2.3.D, 2.4 and 2.5.B in the Repository*

13. Q: The Clear & Grub item contained within Schedule 1 provides no avenue for quantification and the procurement locations within the project for said materials involved with the Schedule 3 work. Is the Contractor to assume all material required for the Schedule 3 work to come from the Repository Area or elsewhere within the project limits and where? There are 5 specific bullet points in the Special Provisions within the Clear & Grub Section, is it possible for you to quantify within that context?

*A: Sheet 3.1 of the Drawings shows wood borrow sites and willow collection areas. These areas are assumed to contain the materials required in Schedule 3. Limited amounts of wood for the work described in Schedule 3 will be created by the clearing and grubbing described in Schedule 1. The intention of the language in Bid Item 1.6 Clear and Grub is to salvage as much usable wood as feasible for use in the Schedule 3 work.*

14. Q: Can the Shaue Gulch staging area be used to temporarily stockpile, mix, blend and dry mine waste coming from the impoundment?

*A: Yes, if an appropriate space with BMPs (sediment and erosion control measures) and decontamination facilities is developed.*

15. Q: SP 12 on page 96 indicates belly dumps will not be allowed on the job. Why is that?

*A: Because of the higher potential for spillage and leaking of mine waste material onto the public road ways. Additionally, past experience with mine waste shows that the materials are often difficult to unload from belly dumps.*